



ADS CENTER

Resource Center to Address
Discrimination and Stigma

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE NEED TO BE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration
Center for Mental Health Services

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Summary

Mind (National Association for Mental Health), London, United Kingdom

Brief Description

Mind (National Association for Mental Health) provides information on a national level for England and Wales. Their activities promote the values of autonomy, equality, knowledge, and participation in the community for all people, especially those with mental illnesses. The group actively campaigns to improve the policy and attitudes of governing bodies in the United Kingdom, and has developed highly successful local-level initiatives for consumers of mental health.

Situation

In the 1990s, it became widely recognized that people with disabilities faced discrimination in England. Though legislation protecting the rights of individuals based on race and sex discrimination did exist, there were no laws or policies directly related to the rights of people with disabilities.

Solution

Mind began a vigorous campaign for anti-discrimination legislation for people with disabilities that emphasized the experiences of mental health consumers. They have actively campaigned for the improvement of the lives of people with mental illnesses by addressing their needs and advising Governmental groups, health authorities, and the general public on best practices, services, and developments within the mental health community.

Results

Currently, Mind has over 200 local associations throughout England and Wales. Their campaign seeks to empower mental health consumers and those who use mental health services, making sure that those directly affected have their voices heard. Mind policies are continuously developed with the assistance of consumers networks such as [Mind Link](#), [Diverse Minds](#), and [Rural Minds](#).

Contact

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The SAMHSA ADS Center is a program of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services.

About the SAMHSA ADS Center

SAMHSA's Resource Center to Address Discrimination and Stigma (ADS Center) helps people design, implement and operate programs that reduce discrimination and stigma associated with mental illnesses. With the most up-to-date research and information, the ADS Center helps individuals, organizations and governments counter such discrimination and stigma in the community, in the workplace, and in the media.

Subscribe to receive our electronic quarterly news and event update, *Mental Health News You Can Use...*, by sending an e-mail to stopstigma@samhsa.hhs.gov, or by calling an ADS Center representative at 800-540-0320. To comment on the materials included in this document, please send e-mail to stopstigma@samhsa.hhs.gov, or write a letter to Resource Center to Address Discrimination and Stigma Associated with Mental Illness; Informational Updates; 11420 Rockville Pike; Rockville, MD 20852. To unsubscribe from our electronic distribution list using the subscribed e-mail account, click [here](#). To unsubscribe your address from a different e-mail account, send a message to Majordomo@listserve.shs.net with the following command in the message body: unsubscribe stopstigma [Your E-mail Address].

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